

May 16, 2000

Scott Whitney, Compliance Officer
Drinking Water Program
Division of Health Engineering
State House Station 11
Augusta, ME 04333-11

RE: Department of Human Services Request for
Consultation Regarding Transport of Bulk Water by
Glenwood Springs.
Docket No 2000-406

Dear Mr. Whitney:

On April 21, 2000, you requested Commission review of the application of Glenwood Springs for renewal of its authorization, pursuant to 22 M.R.S.A. §2660-A(3), to transport water for commercial purposes. That statute requires that your office consult with the PUC and other agencies before authorizing commercial transport of water beyond the municipality in which it occurs naturally. This letter constitutes the PUC's assessment of whether Glenwood Springs's proposal would "constitute a threat to public health, safety, or welfare" in regard to its effect on any public water utility.

Our Staff reviewed the Glenwood Springs proposal to determine whether the proposed withdrawal of water would have any adverse effect on the public water utilities in the area. The Corinna and Newport Water Districts, the Dexter Utility District, and the Hartland Division of Consumer's Maine Water Company were contacted. The review indicates that the proposed withdrawals should not adversely affect these water utilities' water sources or watersheds.

It is our opinion that transport of water from Glenwood Springs will not constitute a threat to public health, safety, or welfare. The public utility component of the waiver process should be reviewed, to ensure circumstances have not changed, each time the authorization is renewed.

Please do not hesitate to contact this office if you have questions regarding the public water utility impact of the Glenwood Springs application.

Sincerely,

Dennis L. Keschl
Administrative Director

cc: Raymond Hammond
Thomas Todd, Supt. - Corinna and Newport Water District
Randy Webber, Supt. - Dexter Utility District
Rick Knowlton, Hartland Division - Consumers Maine Water Company